

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Little Snake Field Office
455 Emerson Street
Craig, CO 81625-1129

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-N010-2014-54

CASEFILE/ALLOTMENT NUMBER: 0504996/04520

PROJECT NAME: Transfer of 63 AUMs of grazing preference on the Danforth Allotment #04520

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: See Allotment Map, Attachment #1

#04520 Danforth T4N R96W parts of Sec. 13, 14, 24
 T4N R95W part of Sec. 18, 19

#04520 Danforth

427 ac	BLM
716 ac	Private
1143 ac	Total

APPLICANT: Rick Tingle

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION: Transfer of 63 AUMs of grazing preference on the Danforth Allotment #04520 from Zech Ranch to Rick Tingle.

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW: The Proposed Action is subject to and has been reviewed for conformance with (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM 1617.3) the following plan:

Name of Plan: Little Snake Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision (RMP)

Date Approved: October 2011

Decision Language: The Proposed Action is in conformance with the Little Snake RMP because it is specifically provided for in the following RMP decisions:

The Proposed Action implements the RMP Livestock Grazing Management objective on page RMP-41 to manage resources, vegetation, and watersheds to sustain a variety of uses, including livestock grazing, and to maintain the long-term health of the rangelands; provide for efficient management of livestock grazing allotments; and contribute to the stability and sustainability of the livestock industry.

PROPOSED ACTION: Transfer of the 15 AUMs of grazing preference on the Danforth Allotment #04520 from Zech Ranch to Rick Tingle. Concurrently, Mr. Tingle applied to transfer the base property and adjust the allotment boundary between the 2 adjacent allotments Upper Hughes Creek #04410 and the Danforth Allotment. Mr. Tingle currently owns the base property associated with both allotments. As a result of the adjustment, an additional 48 AUMs are being transferred to the Danforth Allotment for a total of 63 AUMs being transferred to Mr. Tingle. The attached map (Attachment #1) shows the new allotment boundaries.

Allotment Name & Number	Livestock		Dates		%PL	AUMs
	Number	Kind	Begin	End		
Danforth #04520	7	Cattle	05/10	10/31	37	15
Danforth #04520	18	Cattle	05/01	12/01	37	47
					Inactive	1
					Total	63

The lease would also be subject to the Standard and Common Terms and Conditions as shown in Attachment #2.

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW: The Proposed Action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 2.3A(2) and 516 DM 11.9, D(1), as amended. None of the following extraordinary circumstances in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2, apply.

Extraordinary Circumstances	YES	NO
1. Have significant adverse effects on public health and safety.		<u>X</u>
2. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.		<u>X</u>
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].		<u>X</u>
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.		<u>X</u>
5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		<u>X</u>
6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.		<u>X</u>
7. Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.		<u>X</u>
8. Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant		

impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.	<u> X </u>
9. Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.	<u> X </u>
10. Have the potential for a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).	<u> X </u>
11. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).	<u> X </u>
12. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).	<u> X </u>

NAME OF PREPARER: *Christina Rhynre*

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: *Kathy McKinstry*

DATE: *12/3/14*

This action is listed in the Department Manual (516 DM 2, Appendix 1 and/or 516 DM 11, as amended) as an action that may be categorically excluded. I have evaluated the action relative to the 12 criteria listed above and have determined that it does not represent an exception and is, therefore, categorically excluded from further environmental analysis.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: *Tim Wilson*
 Tim Wilson, Acting Field Manager

DATE SIGNED: *8/11/15*